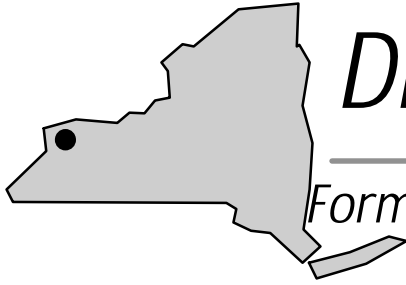




**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**



DERP-FUDS Fact Sheet

*Former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works
Niagara County, New York*

Defense Environmental Restoration Program for Formerly Used Defense Sites • July 2000

This fact sheet has been prepared to address community outreach needs and is consistent with provisions of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). Fact sheets are one part of an effort to provide public information on environmental restoration and waste management.

Site Description and History

The Former Lake Ontario Ordnance Works is located within the Towns of Lewiston and Porter in Niagara County, New York. The property is about 10 miles north of the City of Niagara Falls. The original site encompassed 7,500 acres, but Department of Defense activities only occurred on 2,500 acres. During World War II, the Army manufactured TNT for about 9 months at a facility on the site, which included a power plant, hospital, fire department, water supply system, and waste treatment system.

The TNT plant was decommissioned in 1943. In 1945, 5,000 acres outside the production areas were declared excess and transferred to General Service Administration for disposal to private landowners. Between 1956 and 1960, a portion of the site was used to produce high-energy fuel. As Department of Defense operations decreased, additional property was sold. A large portion of the remainder of the site has not been developed since the government transferred the property.

Current owners of the site include the Lewiston-Porter Schools, general residential areas, and private corporations such as the:

- Chemical Waste Management (CWM) Inc. which operates a Treatment, Storage, Disposal, and Recovery facility permitted under the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA),
- Modern Disposal Facilities Inc. which currently operates a New York State Part 360 Permitted solid waste landfill,
- the Somerset Group,
- J.T. Salvage Yard,
- Acome Landfill (an inactive landfill that is currently owned by private landowners), and,
- Federal, State, and Local governments

Environmental investigations have confirmed Department of Defense related contamination at several areas.

REMEDIAL INVESTIGATION:

A comprehensive site-wide Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study was initiated by contract in June 1997. Phase 1 has been completed and can be viewed on our web site at: <http://www.lrb.usace.army.mil/loow/>. Phase 2 is now underway.

INTERIM REMOVAL ACTIONS:

Several interim removal actions that could be implemented in a timely manner have been identified. They are briefly described below:

1. **Somerset Property (Balmer Road)** - Asbestos containing materials and several containers of miscellaneous chemicals and oils were found in buildings at the Somerset property. The \$1 million removal contract was awarded in July 1998 with work essentially completed in December 1998.
2. **CWM Property (Balmer Road)** - A TNT waste pipeline and chemical waste sewer pipeline have been located on CWM property. A removal action contract worth about \$2.1 million was awarded in September 1998 and work was halted in December 1999 due to higher than anticipated excavation and disposal costs. A new contract was awarded in May. Work is scheduled to be completed in October.
3. **CWM Property (Areas A & B)** - Drums containing acetone and other organic compounds were buried in Area A. Contamination has also been identified in an adjacent burn pit used for the incineration of lithium, kerosene, and other substances in Area B. Remedial Design (60%) has been complete. Cost estimates of these proposed removal actions are estimated at about \$2 million for the Area A drums, and \$4 million for the Area B burn pit.
4. **CWM Property (Area C)** - a drum burial area has been identified northeast of the CWM leachate collection facility and a trash pit area has been identified northwest of the CWM drum handling area. An Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis Report has been drafted and is scheduled for public review in August 2000.
5. **Underground Storage Tanks** - There are reports that underground storage tanks exist at various locations of the site. Future investigations will be required to properly address the tanks.